

**§ 1917.116 Elevators and escalators.**

(a) “Elevator” means a permanent hoisting and lowering mechanism with a car or platform moving vertically in guides and serving two or more floors of a structure. The term excludes such devices as conveyors, tiering or piling machines, material hoists, skip or furnace hoists, wharf ramps, lift bridges, car lifts and dumpers.

(b) “Escalator” means a power-driven continuous moving stairway principally intended for the use of persons.

(c) No elevator or escalator with a defect which affects safety shall be used.

(d) Elevator safety devices shall not be overridden or made inoperable.

(e) Elevators and escalators shall be thoroughly inspected at intervals not exceeding one year. Additional monthly inspections for satisfactory operation shall be conducted by designated persons. Records of the results of the latest annual elevator inspections shall be posted in elevators. Records of annual escalator inspections shall be posted in the vicinity of the escalator or be available at the terminal.

(f) Elevator landing openings shall be provided with doors, gates or equivalent protection which shall be in place when the elevator is not at that landing, to prevent employees from falling into the shaft.

(g) The elevator’s or escalator’s maximum load limits shall be posted and not exceeded. Elevator load limits shall be posted conspicuously both inside and outside of the car.

(h) Elevators shall be operated only by designated persons except for automatic or door interlocking elevators which provide full shaft door closing and automatic car leveling.

[48 FR 30909, July 5, 1983, as amended at 49 FR 28551, July 13, 1984; 61 FR 5509, Feb. 13, 1996]

**§ 1917.117 Manlifts.**

(a) *Inspection.* Manlifts shall be inspected monthly by a designated person. Safety switches shall be checked weekly. Manlifts found to be unsafe shall not be operated until repaired. Inspections shall include at least the following:

- (1) Step fastenings;
- (2) Rails;

- (3) Rail supports and fastenings;
- (4) Roller and slides;
- (5) Belt and belt tension;
- (6) Handholds and fastenings;
- (7) Floor landings;
- (8) Guardrails;
- (9) Lubrication;
- (10) Safety switches;
- (11) Warning signs and lights;
- (12) Illumination;
- (13) Drive pulley;
- (14) Bottom (boot) pulley and clearance;
- (15) Pulley supports;
- (16) Motor;
- (17) Drive mechanism;
- (18) Brake;
- (19) Electrical switches;
- (20) Vibration and misalignment;
- (21) “Skip” on up or down run when mounting the step (indicating worn gears); and
- (22) Emergency exit ladders.

(b) *Inspection records.* Inspection records shall be kept for at least one year. The record of the most recent inspection shall be posted in the vicinity of the manlift or in the terminal.

(c) *Emergency stop.* An emergency stop device shall be available within easy reach from any position on the belt.

(d) *Instructions.* Manlift use instructions shall be conspicuously posted.

(e) *Top floor warning sign and light.* An illuminated sign and red light that are visible to the user shall be provided under the top floor opening of the manlift to warn the user to get off at that floor.

(f) *Bottom floor warning sign.* A sign visible to descending passengers shall be provided to warn them to get off at the bottom floor.

(g) *Upper limit stop.* An automatic stop device shall be provided to stop the manlift when a loaded step passes the top landing, except that manlifts installed after October 3, 1983 shall have two such devices.

(h) *Handholds and steps.* Each step shall be provided with a corresponding handhold.

(i) *Emergency ladder.* A fixed emergency ladder accessible from any position on the lift and in accordance with the requirements of § 1917.118(d) shall be provided for the entire run of the manlift.